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Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington Street,
Phoenix, AZ 85007

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October 12, 2015

AZ CORP COMMISSION
DOCKET CONTROL

Re: SunZia Transmission, LLC, Docket Number L-OOOOOYY-15-03 1 8-001 7 1

I ask the Power Plant and Line Siting Committee to closely examine the purported need for the SunZia Transmission Project. The stated purpose of the project is to deliver wind power from central New Mexico to Arizona and California.

Arizona has abundant renewable energy resources of its own. There is no need for bringing wind power from New Mexico to Arizona, and in fact doing so could actually displace development of Arizona's solar resources. Californians are also concentrating on developing their own renewable resources. They have expressly stated that they are not expecting to import renewable energy.

The SunZia Transmission Project would cut a 30-mile swath of new transmission corridor up the west side of the San Pedro River. As you have heard from other commenters, the San Pedro River Valley is an environmentally unique place that deserves to be protected from a new utility corridor, which would then be a magnet for other infrastructure.

This is especially true when there is an alternative proposal that makes use of already-existing infrastructure corridors. This is the Southline Project, which is in final stages of the federal review process. If you compare the maps of the SunZia Project with those of Southline you will see that the two projects would do essentially the same thing in southern Arizona, **except** that Southline avoids paralleling the San Pedro Valley, uses transmission corridors that are already in place, and provides at least 10 substations to upload southern Arizona renewable power compared to SunZia's one substation in southern Arizona. The Southline Transmission Project would preserve the potential of the middle San Pedro Valley to provide the economic benefits of tourism, while encouraging the development of renewable energy resources in southern Arizona.

Please consider denying the Certificate of Environmental Compatibility for the SunZia Project.

Thank you,

Pearl Mast

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